

VILLAGE OF COMMERCIAL POINT  
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES

February 10, 2014

Mr. Shelton called the meeting to order. Fiscal Officer Hastings took roll call with the following members present: Ms. Evans, Mr. Shelton, Mr. Wissinger, Mr. Sadler, Mr. Laxton and Mr. Geiger. Mayor Hammond was also present. Engineer Grosse and Solicitor Hess were absent.

Mr. Wissinger made a motion seconded by Mr. Laxton to approve the March 13, 2014 COW Minutes. All members were in favor. The motion passed.

Solicitor Hess was absent so no report at this time.

Mayor Hammond had no report.

Engineer Grosse was absent so no report at this time.

Mr. Shelton said the Finance Committee along with Mayor Hammond and Fiscal Officer Hastings got together and came up with a proposed budget. Mr. Wissinger said there is \$ 100,000 set a side in the budget for street projects. He said the two projects the Street Committee would like to see completed this year, will stay under the proposed amount. He also said he would put the minutes together from that meeting and get them to Council. Mr. Shelton said there was a Zoning Committee meeting as well. Minutes will be forthcoming.

At this time, Mr. Shelton recognized Mr. Struckman who wanted to talk to Council about some issues he was having while plowing the Village roads. Mr. Struckman said he had a man step out into the road at Chestnut Estates stopping Mr. Struckman from being able to plow along the curb. This leaves too much snow around the mailboxes and the mail truck can't get to the boxes. He said other people were throwing the snow that Mr. Struckman had just plowed, back into the streets. Another man was shoveling snow and packing it into the center of the street. Village Administrator Shelton asked if that was illegal to put snow into the street. Mr. Struckman said he thought it was illegal to put anything in the street. Mr. Shelton asked if we had any legislation that would pertain to this type of behavior. Fiscal Officer Hastings said she would have to do some research and find out. Ms. Evans asked what the issue was with these people. Mr. Shelton said the people do not want their driveways blocked. Ms. Evans said that it isn't uncommon to have to shovel your own driveway after a snow plow goes through. Mr. Sadler asked if the individual that stepped into the road was hostile or belligerent. Mr. Struckman said the individual threatened to beat him and the truck with a snow shovel. Mr. Struckman said a State Highway Patrol lives across the street from where this was going on. This individual flagged him down wanting to press charges against Mr. Struckman, saying he was trying to run him over with the plow. Sergeant Murphy was then dispatched to the location. Mr. Struckman is looking for direction from Council. He said in this situation, he was unable to complete the job as he feels it should have been done. When there are large mounds of snow and ice left on the street due to cars being parked while plowing and then moved after, who is responsible should someone run into that pile and damage their car. He said he is contracted through the Village and is looking for direction. He said there was another lady in the Village that stepped out into the street as well because she didn't want her driveway plowed

in. Mr. Shelton said this has been a bad winter with a lot of snow. Mr. Struckman would like this issue addressed. Mr. Shelton said we will have to look through our ordinances and see if we have anything in writing. If we do not, then some legislation will need to be created. Fiscal Officer Hastings said there is an ordinance regarding no parking on the streets during a “snow emergency”. However, this ordinance is not in effect until we get signs posted stating what streets are “snow emergency” streets. Mr. Sadler suggested posting something on the website or even placing it on the bottom of the water bill. Mr. Struckman said if this happens again, he would like some type of citation to be issued, disorderly conduct, something. Mr. Shelton recommends calling the Commercial Point Police or County Sheriff immediately should this happen again. Sergeant Murphy said we have an ordinance that states you can’t put anything on our roadways that is dangerous or cause a problem. Sergeant Murphy said he spoke to the gentleman that was putting his snow back out into the street. He said the man thought that if he put the snow back out into the street, when the plow came back through it would be moved away from his driveway. Sergeant Murphy said he had received about 12 complaints that day regarding their driveways being plowed in. Sergeant Murphy suggested that the plow go back through the subdivisions and try to remove the small mounds of snow that remain where a car was parked on the street. Mr. Struckman said they had tried yesterday and most of what is out there now is frozen and unmovable. Sergeant Murphy suggested if our County goes under a level 2 snow emergency, it might be a good idea to have the cars moved off the street. Mayor Hammond asked if it wasn’t a law already to have cars moved off the street when there are snow emergencies, rather than have the Village do an Ordinance. Sergeant Murphy said our Ordinance says we as the Village have to declare when we are under an emergency. Mayor Hammond said he thought that came from the County level. Mr. Shelton said he understands the problem and this is something we need to research and review what our next steps are. Mr. Shelton said he appreciated Mr. Struckman’s efforts and services to the Village.

At this time, a very lengthy discussion was held on the proposed budget. Mayor Hammond informed Council that another one of our styrofoam signs is down. Mayor Hammond just wanted to let Council know that the signs were down and we will need to spend funds if Council chooses to replace these signs. Mr. Shelton said two of the four original signs have been broken. Council will need to decide whether they want to replace with the same type of sign or something different.

Mr. Wissinger made a motion, seconded by Ms. Evans, to adjourn the meeting. All members were in favor. The meeting adjourned.

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Randy Shelton, President of Council

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Wendy Hastings, Fiscal Officer